

Protect your child's future. Have your child tested for lead.



Children should be screened starting at 12 to 15 months of age. They should have follow-up screenings as recommended. All children 6 years of age and under should be screened.

What is lead poisoning?

Lead poisoning is a disease caused by swallowing or breathing in lead.

How does lead get into my child's body?

Younger children are at a greater risk because:

- Small children put everything in their mouths.
- Their bodies absorb lead more easily than adult bodies do.

How does lead affect my child's health?

Lead poisoning can impact children in many ways and may cause such things as lower IQ, brain damage, growth and development impairment, and even death.

Why is it important to have my child tested?

Because it's very common—Millions of American children are affected by lead poisoning every year.

You can prevent your child from suffering damage from lead poisoning with a simple test from your physician.

What every parent should know about lead poisoning

How can I get my child tested for lead?

A simple finger prick is all it takes to find out if there is too much lead in your child's blood.

What are some possible sources of lead in my environment?

- Paint used in homes built before 1978
- Dust, paint, or soil around your home
- Drinking water or food
- Automobile exhaust
- Industrial pollution
- Antique pewter and candles
- Drapery or window weights
- Battery casings
- Folk medicines or folk cosmetics
- Some porcelain and pottery (especially imported)
- Dust or fumes from hobbies that use lead, such as stained glass target practice, or fishing sinkers



Lead poisoning can hurt your child. It can be prevented with regular screenings and a safe home and play area.



How can I learn more about protecting my child from lead poisoning?

Ask your healthcare provider

Call the Idaho CareLine at:
(800) 926-2588 – TTD: (208) 332-7205 or
visit www.idahochild.org (scroll down and
click on the "Get the Lead Out" icon)



HW0243 — Costs associated with this publication are available at the Department of Health and Welfare.

